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APR 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q77750

Takeshi IWASAKI, et al

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014300

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: March 21, 2006

Examiner: Unknown

For: PERPENDICULAR MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following:
U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

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filings a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of an English-language International Search Report from the International Searching Authority in the International Application citing such documents, including at least that portion of the International Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the International Searching Authority and a copy of an English-language Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority citing and discussing the documents.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: English language abstracts, submitted herewith, constitute concise statements of relevance for Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 2003-217107, 2002-342908, 9-204651, 2001-351217, 7-311929, and 2000-15417. Furthermore, JP 2003-217107 A and JP 2002-342908 A correspond to U.S. 2004/0027868 and 2002/0187368, respectively. In addition, JP 7-311929 and JP 2000-15417 are cited and discussed in the present specification.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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<p>Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014300 80
				Confirmation Number	Unknown
				Filing Date	March 21, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Takeshi IWASAKI
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q77750

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 2004/0027868	A1	02/12/2004	MIYABI NAKAMURA, ET AL
		US 2002/0187368	A1	12/12/2002	YUUJI SENZAKI, ET AL
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴		
		JP	2003-217107	A	07/31/2003 FUJI ELECTRIC CO. LTD.
		JP	2002-342908	A	11/29/2002 SONY CORP.
		JP	9-204651	A	08/05/1997 TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC CO.
		JP	2001-351217	A	12/21/2001 FUJITSU LTD.
		JP	7-311929	A	11/28/1995 ASAHI KOMAGU KK
		JP	2000-15417	A	01/18/2000 TOSHIBA MACH CO. LTD.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.